AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

On page 1, lines 12-20, through page 2, lines 1-19, please replace the paragraphs as follows:

--A resource scheduler performs the function of allocating resources. Different resource types may use separate resource schedulers. Within each resource scheduler, each customer or user of the resource is treated as a separate "schedulable entity" with a separate scheduling queue and an individual quality of service guarantee. The scheduler selects requests for service from among the different queues, using a scheduling algorithm to ensure that each queue receives ~~a~~ at least the minimum level of service ~~they were~~ it was guaranteed. Different queues may have different minimum quality of service guarantees, and the resource requests from each queue are weighted by the quality of service guarantee. Weighting increases or decreases a schedulable entity's relative resource share.

The goal of the resource scheduler is twofold. First, the resource scheduler must try to ensure that each schedulable entity is allocated resources corresponding to at least the minimum quality of service resource level paid for by that schedulable entity. However, if extra resources are available, the resource scheduler must decide how to allocate the additional resources. Typical resource scheduling algorithms and methods are work-conserving. A work-conserving scheduler is idle only when there is no resource request to service. Additional resources will be divided up among the schedulable entities with outstanding requests, in proportion to each schedulable entity's weight. Customer requests are serviced if the resource is available, even if they exceed the schedulable entities' quality of service ~~guarantee~~ guarantees.

Thus, a work-conserving resource scheduler may often provide schedulable entities with service beyond the actual maximum quality of service paid for by the schedulable entity.

Unfortunately, this behavior tends to create unrealistic expectations. For example, assume customers A and B both are sharing a resource. Customer A pays for 50% of the ~~resource~~ resources and customer B pays for 25%, and resource sharing is weighted between A and B to reflect these different allocations. In a work-conserving scheduler, customers with unsatisfied requests get resource shares in proportion to their weights. Therefore, if both A and B request resources beyond their paid-for quality of service guarantee, one embodiment of a work-conserving scheduler will allocate two-thirds of the extra 25% of the resources to A, and the remaining one-third to B.--